

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, after the title of the application:

This application is the U.S. national phase application of PCT International Application No. PCT/GB2003/003467, filed August 7, 2003, and claims priority of British Patent Application No. 0219681.4, filed August 23, 2002.

Please add the following heading at page 1, line 2:

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

Please add the following heading at page 1, line 7:

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Please add the following heading at page 2, line 13:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Please add the following headings and paragraph at page 2, line 17:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The invention is described below by way of example only and with reference to the following drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a graph illustrating the rate of uptake of Pd in a 6M hydrochloric acid solution by some examples of media according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a graph illustrating the rate of uptake of Pd in a 6M hydrochloric acid solution by a media with limited hydrophilicity and also some examples of hydrophobic media not according to the present invention;

Figure 3 is a graph comparing the rate of uptake of Pd from 0.6M and 6M hydrochloric acid solution by one example of a medium according to the present invention;

Figure 4 is a graph comparing the rate of uptake of Pd from 0.6M and 6M hydrochloric acid solution by a further example of a medium according to the present invention;

Figure 5 is a chromatogram showing the separation of PGM in a mixed PGM solution using one of the media of Fig. 1;

Figure 6 is a chromatogram showing the separation of PGM in a mixed PGM solution using the medium of Fig. 4;

Figure 7 is a chromatogram showing the separation of PGM in a mixed PGM solution which also include Ag and Cu using the medium of Fig. 4, and;

Figure 8 shows the elution of substantially pure Pd using ammonia from the medium of Fig. 4.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please delete the paragraphs at page 9, line 18 through page 10, line 15.